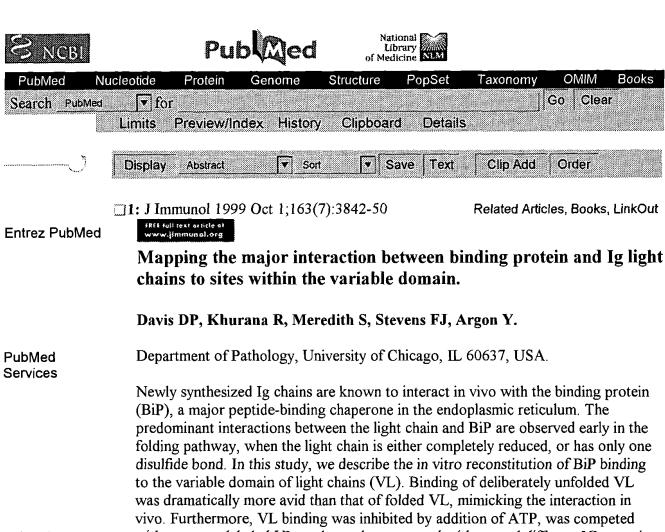
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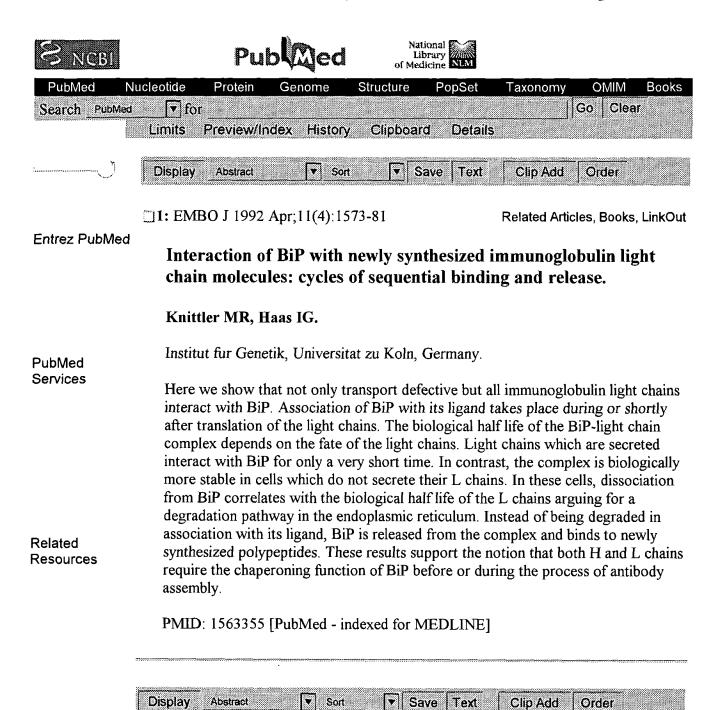
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(BiP), a major peptide-binding chaperone in the endoplasmic reticulum. The predominant interactions between the light chain and BiP are observed early in the folding pathway, when the light chain is either completely reduced, or has only one disulfide bond. In this study, we describe the in vitro reconstitution of BiP binding to the variable domain of light chains (VL). Binding of deliberately unfolded VL was dramatically more avid than that of folded VL, mimicking the interaction in vivo. Furthermore, VL binding was inhibited by addition of ATP, was competed with excess unlabeled VL, and was demonstrated with several different VL proteins. Using this assay, peptides derived from the VL sequence were tested experimentally for their ability to bind BiP. Four peptides from both beta sheets of VL were shown to bind BiP specifically, two with significantly higher affinity. As few as these two peptide sites, one from each beta sheet of VL, are sufficient to explain the association of BiP with the entire light chain. These results suggest how BiP directs the folding of Ig in vivo and how it may be used in shaping the B cell repertoire.

PMID: 10490983 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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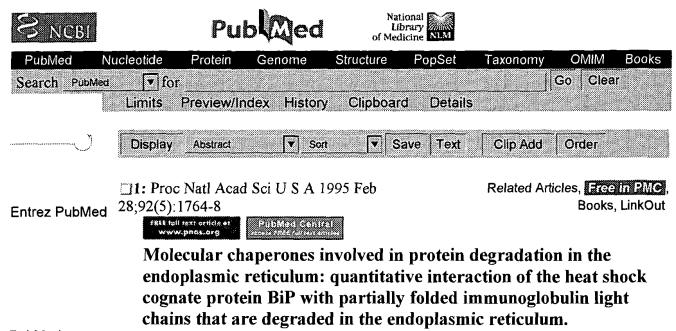
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Knittler MR, Dirks S, Haas IG.

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Related Resources In the absence of immunoglobulin heavy-chain expression, some immunoglobulin light (L) chains are retained and degraded within the cell. We investigated the fate of two different nonsecreted murine L chains which exhibit different half-lives (50 min and 3-4 hr). Our results demonstrate that both nonsecreted L chains are quantitatively bound to BiP as partially oxidized molecules. The kinetics of L-chain degradation coincided with those of L-chain dissociation from BiP, which suggests that these two processes are functionally related. L-chain degradation does not depend on vesicular transport, indicating that these soluble proteins are degraded in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER). In contrast, secreted L chains, which interact only transiently with BiP, are completely oxidized and are not degraded even when they are artificially retained in the ER. Our data support the model that, by means of BiP interaction, the ER degradation mechanism has the potential to discriminate between partially and completely folded molecules.

PMID: 7878056 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

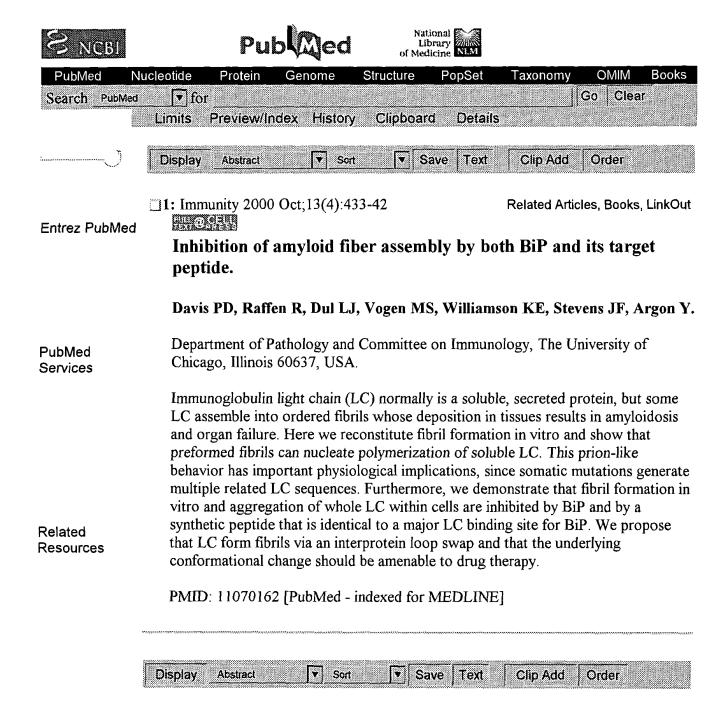


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